

Claims:

1. A broadcast data receiver for the reception of data broadcast from a remote location, processing of the data and generation of video and/or audio therefrom in the form of a television programme for viewing on a display screen, said receiver including one or more information tables which include strings of data and said receiver having means by which a user can request to be informed of one or more items of data from the string(s) being identified in a user-selected programme and characterised in that on user-selection of a pre-designated button of a control unit of the receiver, said receiver provides a display over the current video display on the display screen informing the user of whether said user requested item or items of data have been identified in said user-selected programme, irrespective of whether the receiver is currently tuned into said user-selected programme at that time.
2. A broadcast data receiver according to claim 1 characterised in that the string of data is identified in respect of a live "sport" event.
3. A broadcast data receiver according to claim 1 characterised in that the receiver informs the user of any or any combination of whether or not the item or items of data have been identified in the selected programme, the frequency at which the items of data were identified in said programme, details relating to the occurrence of the data items or an update of the occurrence of said data items since the last user-request for information and/or since the user-selected programme started.
4. A broadcast data receiver according to claim 1 characterised in that the string of data includes any or any combination of the score of the sport event, participants in the event, location of the event and/or scorers in the event.

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5. A broadcast data receiver according to claim 1 characterised in that the string of data is updated in real time at the broadcaster location and transmitted to the receiver.
6. A broadcast data receiver according to claim 1 characterised in that the user can select one or more data strings from the information tables in relation to a user-selected programme.
7. A broadcast data receiver according to claim 1 characterised in that the user can input data strings into the one or more information tables for subsequent selection in relation to the user selected programme.
8. A broadcast data receiver according to claim 1 characterised in that the control unit is a remote control handset.
9. A method of using a broadcast data receiver, said broadcast data receiver for the reception of data broadcast from a remote location, processing of the data and generation of video and/or audio therefrom in the form of a television programme for viewing on a display screen, said receiver including one or more information tables which include strings of data and characterised in that said method includes the steps of a user selecting to be informed of one or more items of data from the string(s) being identified in a user-selected programme and, on user-selection of a pre-designated button of a control unit of said receiver, said receiver searching the Event Information Tables(s) (EIT) for said one or more items of data relating to the user-selected programme, and following said search informing said user of whether said item or items were identified in said user-selected programme.

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